Identification in healthcare cluster

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Identifying and definitional attributes

Metadata item type:	Data Set Specification
METEOR identifier:	611321
Registration status:	Health, Standard 05/10/2016
DSS type:	Data Element Cluster
Scope:	The identification of individuals and **healthcare providers** requires identifiers that are created for a specific purpose as well as other identifying information to support healthcare needs.

The Identification in healthcare cluster includes data elements that define information about the identifier, such as its designation (that is, the unique number or code assigned to an entity in healthcare); the way the identifier is to be used; the issuer of the identifier; and whether the identifier is for a group to which the individual belongs. Three data elements—'Identifier designation', 'Identifier issuer' and 'Identifier usage'—can be combined to form a globally unique identifier.

It also provides information about the status of the identifier such as whether the identifier is active or has been replaced; the dates of the changes in status; the replacement identifier used for an entity; and the identifier of the organisation or provider that has authorised the use of the replacement identifier. These data elements can be used when an identifier is no longer in use, or where multiple registrations have accidentally occurred for a single entity. In this case an identifier can be retired and point to the replacement identifier.

The cluster also provides a flag to indicate whether an identifier is a potential duplicate or an intertwined record (when more than one entity is assigned the same identifier) and requires further investigation; and optional data element clusters for duplicate records, similar but different entities (records that are similar enough to be the same person or organisation, but that relate to a different entity) and intertwined records.

Collection and usage attributes

Guide for use: The use of identifiers in healthcare are based on the following principles, outlined in *AS 4846:2014 Person and provider identification in healthcare*:

- identifiers are unique for a purpose, and connected to an entity (usually a person or organisation)
- family group identifiers can also be used and are unique to the family
- identifiers are not recycled or re-used
- each entity should have a single active identifier from a given issuer for a specific use at any point in time.

It is common for an entity to have many identifiers issued by different organisations for different purposes. This cluster has been designed to allow systems to manage multiple types of identifiers without the need to change the system structure. It reflects the use of many numbers in healthcare, and means that a single generic structure can be used to collect, use and represent a wide range of other identifiers.

Examples of healthcare client and provider identifiers are:

- Person identifier
- Medical Record Number (MRN)
- Local client identifier
- Health (care client) identification number
- Unit Record (UR) number
- Enterprise identifier
- Area identifier
- State/territory health identifier
- Unique Identifier (UID)
- Unique Health Identifier (UHID)
- Medicare Provider Number
- Employee number (payroll system number)
- Individual Healthcare Identifier (IHI)
- Healthcare Provider Identifier–Individual (HPI-I)
- Healthcare Provider Identifier–Organisation (HPI-O).

Source and reference attributes

Submitting organisation: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

Reference documents: Standards Australia 2014. AS 4846:2014 Person and provider identification in healthcare. Sydney: Standards Australia.

Relational attributes

Implementation in Data Set Specifications: [Person and provider identification in healthcare National Best Practice Data Set Health](#), Standard 05/10/2016

Metadata items in this Data Set Specification

Seq No.	Metadata item	Obligation	Max occurs
1	[Identifier—identifier designation, text X[X(19)]](#)	Mandatory	1

Seq No.	Metadata item	Obligation	Max occurs
2	Identifier—identifier issuer, text X[X(199)]	Mandatory	1

DSS specific information:

When used to record information associated with a person or provider in healthcare, the identifier should be a valid unique Healthcare Provider Identifier, and will usually be the identifier of a healthcare organisation. Examples include the following:

- Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency issuing profession number for individuals.
- Healthcare Identifiers Service issuing Individual Healthcare Identifiers (IHI), Healthcare Provider Identifiers–Individual (HPI-I) and Healthcare Provider Identifiers–Organisation (HPI-O).
- Electronic identifier (sometimes called a device) including the Australian Business Number of the insurance company and the HPI-O of the hospital.
- Medicare Australia, issuing Medicare Provider Numbers.

Seq No.	Metadata item	Obligation	Max occurs
3	Identifier—identifier usage, code NNN	Mandatory	1
4	Identifier—identifier usage start date, DDMMYYYY	Mandatory	1
5	Identifier—identifier usage end date, DDMMYYYY	Conditional	1

Conditional obligation:

Recorded only when an identifier usage end date is identified.

Seq No.	Metadata item	Obligation	Max occurs
6	Identifier—group identifier, code A	Conditional	1

Conditional obligation:

Recorded only when it is necessary to indicate a group identifier to which an individual belongs.

Seq No.	Metadata item	Obligation	Max occurs
7	Identifier—identifier active status indicator, yes/no code N	Mandatory	1
8	Identifier—identifier active status start date, DDMMYYYY	Mandatory	1
9	Identifier—identifier active status end date, DDMMYYYY	Conditional	1

Conditional obligation:

Recorded only when the active status of an identifier is 'Code 2–inactive' (as determined by Identifier—identifier active status indicator, yes/no code N).

Seq No.	Metadata item	Obligation	Max occurs
10	Date—accuracy indicator, code AAA	Mandatory	4

DSS specific information:

Recorded in conjunction with the data elements within this cluster that are used to record a date.

Seq No.	Metadata item	Obligation	Max occurs
11	Identifier—investigation flag, yes/no code N	Optional	1

Seq No.	Metadata item	Obligation	Max occurs
12	Identifier—investigation outcome, duplicate/intertwined/similar record code N	Conditional	1

Conditional obligation:

Conditional on the data element: Identifier—investigation flag, yes/no code N being recorded as code 1 'Yes'.

DSS specific information:

For code 2: An intertwined record can also be known as a 'same site active clinical record' and is a result of clinical records that are merged in error.

13	Duplicate record cluster	Conditional	1

Conditional obligation:

Conditional on Identifier—investigation outcome, duplicate/intertwined/similar record code N being recorded as code 1 'Duplicate record'.

1	Identifier—duplicate record confirmed by, text X[X(199)]	Mandatory	1

DSS specific information:

A valid *Healthcare Provider Identifier–Individual* or *Healthcare Provider Identifier–Organisation* number should be recorded where possible. There might be some situations where it is not possible to record one, in which case the provider should be identified individually.

2	Identifier—duplicate record confirmation date, DDMMYYYY	Mandatory	1
3	Date—accuracy indicator, code AAA	Mandatory	1
14	Intertwined record cluster	Conditional	1

Conditional obligation:

Conditional on Identifier—investigation outcome, duplicate/intertwined/similar record code N being recorded as code 2 'Intertwined record'.

1	Identifier—intertwined record confirmed by, text X[X(199)]	Mandatory	1
2	Identifier—intertwined record confirmation date, DDMMYYYY	Mandatory	1
3	Date—accuracy indicator, code AAA	Mandatory	1

DSS specific information:

Recorded in conjunction with the data elements within this cluster that are used to record a date.

15	Similar but different entity cluster	Conditional	1

Conditional obligation:

Conditional on Identifier—investigation outcome, duplicate/intertwined/similar record code N being recorded as code 3 'Similar but different record'.

DSS specific information:

Recorded when similar but different entities are confirmed. It can be recorded multiple times, to accommodate the possibility of more than two similar but different entities in an identifier issuer's records.

Seq No.	Metadata item	Obligation	Max occurs
1	Identifier—similar identifier designation, text X[X(19)]	Mandatory	1
2	Identifier—similar entity confirmed by, text X[X(199)]	Mandatory	1
3	Identifier—similar entity confirmation date, DDMMYYYY	Mandatory	1
4	Date—accuracy indicator, code AAA	Mandatory	1

DSS specific information:

Recorded in conjunction with the data elements within this cluster that are used to record a date.

16	Identifier—replacement identifier designation, text X[X(19)]	Conditional	1

Conditional obligation:

Conditional on Identifier—investigation outcome, duplicate/intertwined/similar record code Nbeing recorded as code 1 'Duplicate record' or code 2 'Intertwined record'.